

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ABOUT COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE ARNO RIVER BASIN IN ITALY AND
THE JUCAR RIVER BASIN IN SPAIN**

The **Arno River Basin Authority**, with headquarters located in Florence (Italy), was established in 1989 as the Authority in charge of planning and programming activities as regards to soil protection and water resources management in the Arno River Basin. The Arno River Basin Authority is a specialised Governmental Administration, whose Institutional and Technical Committees are formed by members belonging both to Regional and State Bodies. Its optimal government and management unit is the River Basin.

The Arno River Basin Authority drafts:

- The River Basin Plan (that includes the Hydraulic Hazard Plan, the Hydrological Management Plan, the Water Balance Plan, the Water Quality plan).
- The River Basin Management Plan and the Floods Management Plan for the Northern Apennines District under Directives 2000/60/EC and 2007/60/EC.

The **Júcar River Basin Authority (CHJ)**, with headquarters in Valencia (Spain), is an entity with its own law jurisdiction, affiliated with administrative effects to the Spanish Ministry of Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs and has full functional autonomy, according to what is established by Spanish water laws. Its duties are:

- Elaboration of the River Basin Management Plan, as well as its reviews and follow-ups,
- Administration and control of the public hydraulic domain,
- Administration and control of the uses of general interest or uses that affect more than one Spanish autonomous community,
- Development of projects, construction and exploitation of water infrastructures charged to the organisation's own funds, and construction of other public works entrusted by the government,
- Development of other functions derived from agreements with autonomous communities, local corporations, and other private or public entities.

In order to promote the bilateral exchange and technical cooperation in the area of water resources management and for the benefit of both parties, the following is agreed:

1) COOPERATION AREAS:

- a) The interlinkages and connection between the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Flood Directive (FD).
- b) Draft of Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps under Directive 2007/60/EC and any other aspect deemed to be interesting or requiring information exchange as regards to the Implementation of the Flood Directive.
- c) Economic aspects of the River Basin Management: methodologies, economic sustainability assessment, etc.
- d) Capacity building, education and training of professionals in the above-mentioned fields.
- e) Other areas of cooperation of joint interest.

2) ROAD MAP

The following road map is foreseen for the cooperation:

November 2010 - January 2011: Exchange on the situation in both river basins, topics to be treated during the cooperation, objectives to reach, etc.
(This has been done before signing the memorandum of understanding)

February 2011: Signature of the Cooperation Agreement.

March - April 2011: Information exchange and preparation of technical visits.
Direct exchange of information. The main focus will lie on topic a) The interlinkages and connection between the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the Flood Directive (FD) and b) Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps.

May - June 2011: Technical visit to the Arno River Basin.
For a more effective information exchange regarding topics a), b) and capacity building and education of professionals regarding both issues a visit of the Arno River Basin Authority by delegates of the Júcar River Basin Authority will be organised. Dates and the programme for the visit are subject to prior agreements between the partners.

September - October 2011: Further information exchange and preparation of the second technical visit.
Direct exchange of information. The main focus will lie on topics a), b), c) Economic aspects of the River Basin Management: methodologies, economic sustainability assessment and d).

November - December 2011: Technical visit to the Júcar River Basin.

For a more effective information exchange regarding topic a), b), c) and capacity building and education of professionals regarding these issues one technical visit to the Júcar River Basin Authority by delegates of the Arno River Basin will be organised. Dates and the programme are subject to prior agreements between the partners.

January 2012: Evaluation of outcomes, needs and possibility for further cooperation on the same or new topics.

3) EXPENSES

Each organisation will cover its own expenses for travel, accommodation and daily expenses of the delegates, participants and other representatives involved in the cooperation.

4) COORDINATORS

Each organisation signing this agreement designates a coordinator, who will be responsible for the coordination and organisation of the exercises of this cooperation.

Mr. Javier Ferrer Polo (email: jferrer@chj.es) of the Júcar River Basin Authority and Ms. Lucia Fiumi (email: l.fiumi@adbarno.it) of the Arno River Basin Authority are the persons in charge.

5) INFORMATION EXCHANGE

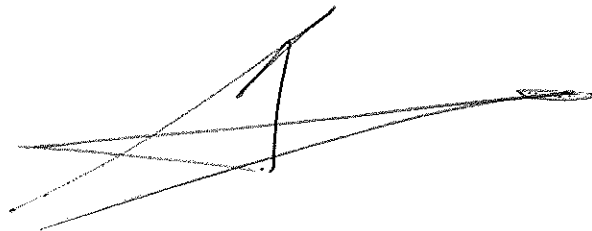
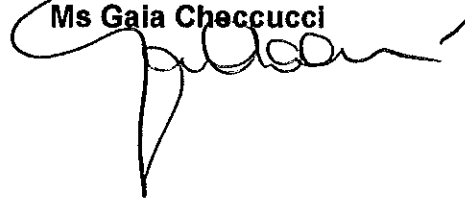
For an effective information and document exchange on the selected topics the following means will be used: emails, a dedicated section on the Arno River Basin Authority website, a special blog that will be set up by the Arno River Basin Authority.

6) VALIDITY

The validity of this memorandum is one year from the moment of signature, except if one of the partners notifies the other in writing about its intention to end the memorandum of understanding.

By mutual consent, Ms Gaia Checcucci, General Director of the Arno River Basin Authority and Mr Juan José Moragues Terrades, President of the Júcar River Basin Authority, sign this memorandum in four original copies on the 28 of February 2011.

ARNO RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY
Ms Gaia Checcucci



JÚCAR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY
Mr Juan José Moragues Terrades